

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 03173 281820Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 03173

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR NEGOTIATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS,
ROUND SEVEN: EIGHTH MEETING OF THE DRAFTING GROUP,
FEBRUARY 27, 1978

1. SUMMARY: AT EIGHTH DRAFTING GROUP MEETING, USDEL INFORMED SOVIET SIDE THAT U.S. EXPERTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN REVIEW OF ISSUE OF IRRITANTS AND RIGHTS/FUNCTIONS OF INSPECTORS ON-SITE. USDEL ASKED IF THE SOVIET SIDE AGREED THAT RIOT CONTROL CHEMICALS WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION. SOVIET DEL SAID THAT, AT DRAFTING GROUP LEVEL, IT COULD REPLY IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. SOVIET DEL ASKED USDEL TO INDICATE THE TYPES OF FACILITIES TO BE INCLUDED IN DECLARATIONS OF FACILITIES AND WHAT SORT OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION THE U.S. THOUGHT A CHALLENGED STATE, WHICH REFUSED A REQUEST FOR A CHALLENGE INSPECTION, WOULD BE OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE BY WAY OF EXPLANATION. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE DRAFTING GROUP OF THE US-USSR NEGOTIATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS WAS HELD MONDAY
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03173 281820Z

AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 27, AT THE U.S. MISSION. TURRENTINE (ALT. HEAD OF USDEL) INFORMED SOVIET DEL THAT U.S. EXPERTS WERE PARTICIPATING IN A REVIEW OF THE ISSUES INVOLVING IRRITANTS AND RIGHTS/FUNCTIONS OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN A CHALLENGE ON-SITE INSPECTION. WHEN ASKED BY USDEL IF SOVIET DEL HAD AGREED, IN PRINCIPLE, NOT TO INCLUDE RIOT CONTROL CHEMICALS (RCC'S) IN THE SCOPE

OF THE PROHIBITION, KRASULIN (ALT. HEAD OF SOVIET DEL) RESPONDED THAT, "AT THE DRAFTING GROUP LEVEL, HE COULD SAY THAT THE U.S. ASSUMPTION WAS CORRECT. (SUBSEQUENTLY, SOVIET DEL PRIVATELY INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR EXCLUDING RCC'S IMPLICITLY RATHER THAN EXPLICITLY.)

3. KRASULIN ASKED SOME QUESTIONS ON DECLARATION OF FACILITIES AND ACCEPTABLE EXPLANATIONS FOR REFUSING REQUESTS FOR CHALLENGE INSPECTIONS. SOVIET QUESTIONS AND U.S. RESPONSES FOLLOW BELOW.

A. QUESTION: COULD THE USDEL GIVE ITS VIEWS ON WHICH OF THE TEN HYPOTHETICAL CASES IT HAD LISTED WOULD HAVE TO BE INCLUDED IN DECLARATIONS OF FACILITIES?

RESPONSE: USDEL DEFERRED RESPONSES.

B. QUESTION: WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION WOULD BE INCLUDED IN DECLARATIONS OF FACILITIES?

RESPONSE: IN GENERAL TERMS LOCATION OF THE FACILITY, WHICH MEANS THE SPECIFIC BUILDING OR BUILDINGS WITHIN WHICH THE ACTIVITY RELATED TO MEANS OF CHEMICAL WARFARE OCCURS AND INFORMATION ON THE TYPE OF ACTIVITY, I.E., PRODUCTION FILLING ETC., BASED ON THE GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 03173 281820Z

C. QUESTION: WHAT SORT OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION WOULD A STATE HAVE TO PROVIDE TO MAKE ITS REFUSAL OF CHALLENGE INSPECTION SATISFACTORY TO THE REQUESTING PARTY?

RESPONSE: THIS IS NOT A TECHNICAL QUESTION, BUT ESSENTIALLY A MATTER OF POLITICAL JUDGMENT ON THE PART OF BOTH THE CHALLENGED AND CHALLENGING STATES. EACH EXPLANATION OF REFUSAL AS WELL AS ITS EVALUATION BY THE REQUESTING PARTY, WOULD BE UNIQUELY RELATED TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAD CAUSED THE REQUEST. IN RESPONDING TO A REQUEST FOR AN ON-SITE INSPECTION, A CHALLENGED STATE WOULD BE OBLIGATED TO MAKE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT TO SATISFY THE CONCERNS OF THE CHALLENGING STATE, EVEN IF THE CHALLENGED STATE REFUSES THE REQUEST FOR AN ON-SITE INSPECTION.

4. IT WAS AGREED THAT FURTHER MEETINGS OF THE DRAFTING GROUP WILL BE HELD, AS NEEDED, AT THE REQUEST OF EITHER DELEGATION. VANDEN HEUVEL

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